

BEACH ALCOHOL TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes for 1/22/07

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Members Present:

Mark Antis, Todd Brown, Scott Chipman, Jean Froning, Clyde Fuller, Nancie Geller, Carol Janks, Katie Keach, Julie Klein, Jeremy Malecha, Dave Martin, Bill Bradshaw, Mike Meyers.

Chair:

Councilmember (C-M) Kevin Faulconer

Meeting called to order by Councilmember Kevin Faulconer (C-M) at 6:30 p.m.

Introductory comments by C-M:

- Announcement that next meeting will be held on February 26, 2007. Topic will be neighborhood house parties and will also be discussing crime statistics
- Recap of the meetings thus far and topics discussed regarding alcohol related issues
- Call the office if there is any additional information that is needed, recommendations on presentations for future meetings.

Public Comment:

- Alex: need more police presence
- Suzanne Landa: said that the top SavePB issue is neighborhood house parties. She passed out a handout and requested that task force members review it prior to the next mtg.
- Dave Jones: agrees with the problems discussed at these meetings, need more of a police presence on the streets.
- Eric Lingenfelder: invited all interested parties to attend an in-house security training program he hosts; they conduct them quarterly.
- Al Strohlein: ABC is still granting licenses; there is a pizza establishment seeking a license and will probably be granted such a license
- Sean Wilson: works in the hospitality industry; they work to do things for the community and also face issues the community deals with, looking for ways to improve the situation
- Catherine Strohlein: spoke about getting representatives from the schools out here as well.
- Jerry Hall: big issue is crime, drunk driving and vandals, suggests that sub-committees are created to aid in the reduction of drunk driving
- Eric: recommends DUI barring swiping ID's and not allowing those people in the PB area.
- Marcie Beckett: drunk driver hit 3 cars in her neighborhood in a hit and run case, PB is always at bottom of crime rates-thinks need to acknowledge alcohol abuse links it
- Michael: he is taking part of the task force efforts; states that as a hospitality employee, he can refuse to serve a customer but he can't force them not to drive
- Sara Woodcock: MAD could bring security and cleaner area, need more cops on street
- Ken Lovi: 6 ABC licenses in state of CA all have CUP except for PB one, his company is not opposed.
- Eve Anderson: beach bicycle brigade, have people ride around the neighborhoods not just on Garnet and Grand
- Kathy Lippit: Last drink survey, 0.14 is average BAC of people, promoting cheap drinks is part of the problem

Next Meeting:

- House Parties
- Invite cops to talk about crime

SDPD VICE Presentation:

Entertainment establishments

- Renewed annually or for special events: this encompasses amplified music, jukebox, DJ's, places where there is dancing. Only required to have entertainment permit if the establishment is public.
- Must have licensed security guards, 1 for every 50 people.
- Entertainment permits have the same strict conditions as the downtown locations that have conditional use permits.
- Some permits put noise restrictions/conditions on them depending upon conditions
- Municipal Code section addressing this: the authority to deny a permit is fairly weak, unless that same owner had documented bad action at another bar.
- Community issues page of the application: this is where VICE wants to hear from the manager/general manager and community to modify the entertainment permit either way to make it more effective, whether that means making it stricter or more flexible.
- There is an online form where constituents can make a complaint to VICE about an establishment
 - www.sandiego.gov/police/forms/alcohol
- ABC and VICE will investigate such complaints. These typically involve over-serving, compliance with entertainment permit, amplified music.
- Renewal process for entertainment permits:
 - Here, VICE looks at the calls for service to that location seeking a renewal, including any community complaints; whether the owner was convicted of any crimes.
 - To obtain stricter restrictions really depends upon the type of issues that establishment faced that year. Conditions are changed for about 1/20 during the annual renewal process

City Attorney—Dart Abatement Response Team:

- Makini Hammond: spoke about the multi-level abatement tools available—she is with the City Atty.'s Drug Abatement Response Team (DART), and they work with VICE, Fire Dept., SDPD. This group has been meeting together for about a year doing nuisance abatement.
- The DART website has a link to make complaints about problem establishments:
<http://www.sandiego.gov/cityattorney/criminal/dart/index.shtml>
- DART's goal is to address issues quickly; they typically get 75-80% voluntary compliance from property owners when they come to the table, because those owners want to avoid a lawsuit.

Questions from the committee:

- Todd: his establishment does not have an entertainment permit, but everyone who works in their bar still has his employees participate in the state Guard card program.
- Katie: commented that we should look at CUP's for new establishments; entertainment permits for current establishments; and an education campaign about who to contact when you have a problem with an establishment
- Question was posed to VICE about whether there are limits to entertainment permit conditions, or can all the same conditions be put in there that a CUP has? Beth Riley from VICE responded that entertainment permits can have same regulations as CUPs.
- Todd: stated that we should change the mindsets of the kids that visit PB. Hospitality task force favors having police foot patrols on the street, "out of cars and into bars;" each establishment should be required to submit a security plan to SDPD; and each establishment should meet a baseline of requirements for security protocol
- Clyde: posed idea to have the Beach and Bay Press post information for community to contact about problem establishments. Try and have any complaints to PD go directly to VICE to take into account with entertainment permits. Work with City Attorney's office to have some method so that the bar can see who has had a DUI prior to entering an establishment.
- Scott: need to have a CUP; also need a baseline established by an outside agency
- Bill: asked how many people think that something needs to change and be done, have some policy changes.
- Mark: believes the problem is crime; over-serving happening in many bars; two ways to help that issue is increased foot patrol presence in bars by the PD; and target where DUI's are coming from

Conclusion

- Next meeting is February 26, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the OB Masonic Lodge.
 - Topic: neighborhood house parties and SDPD crime statistics presented.